

Claims:

1. (previously presented): A method comprising:  
aggregating first fingerprint data and second fingerprint data, wherein fingerprint data comprises at least a reduced-bit representation of content, and wherein the first fingerprint data originated at a first source and the second fingerprint data originated at second source, and wherein the first source and the second source are remotely located;  
identifying information associated with the first fingerprint data and the second fingerprint data; and  
determining a subset of the associated information.
2. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein said determining is based at least in part on a frequency occurrence of the subset, and wherein the frequency occurrence comprises a vote tally.
3. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein said determining is based at least in part on a frequency occurrence of the subset, and wherein the subset comprises at least one of audio, video, and image data.
4. (original): The method according to claim 3, wherein the associated information comprises at least one of audio, video and image data.

5. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said aggregating comprises aggregating fingerprint data within a predetermined time period.

6. (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the first fingerprint data comprises a first set of audio fingerprints, and wherein the second fingerprint data comprises a second set of audio fingerprints.

7. (previously presented): A method to match a song based on an audio fingerprint, said method comprising:

aggregating a first set of audio fingerprints provided by a first device with a second set of audio fingerprints provided by a remotely located second device;  
determining a plurality of songs relating to the aggregated fingerprints; and  
selecting a song from the plurality of songs based on a number of times a selected song matches the aggregated fingerprints.

8. (original): The method according to claim 7, wherein the selected song includes the highest number of matches.

9. (previously presented): A method comprising:

receiving a signal from a first broadcast source at a reference receiver;

generating first fingerprint data from the received signal;

applying the first fingerprint data to a database to select associated information;

receiving second fingerprint data; and

comparing the second fingerprint data with the associated information.

10. (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein said comparing comprises selecting a subset from the associated information based on a vote tally.

11. (previously presented): A method comprising:

receiving a signal from a first broadcast source at a reference receiver;

generating first fingerprint data from the received signal;

applying the first fingerprint data to a database to select associated information;

receiving second fingerprint data; and

comparing the second fingerprint data with the associated information, wherein said comparing comprises selecting a subset from the associated information based on a vote tally, and wherein the vote tally includes probabilities of a match with the second fingerprint data, and wherein the selected subset has a highest probability of a match.

12. (previously presented): A method comprising:

receiving a signal from a first broadcast source at a reference receiver;

generating first fingerprint data from the received signal;

applying the first fingerprint data to a database to select associated information;

receiving second fingerprint data; and

comparing the second fingerprint data with the associated information, wherein a user device generates the second fingerprint data.

13. (previously presented): A method comprising:

receiving a signal from a first broadcast source at a reference receiver;

generating first fingerprint data from the received signal;

applying the first fingerprint data to a database to select associated information;

receiving second fingerprint data, wherein a cell phone generates the second fingerprint data; and

comparing the second fingerprint data with the associated information.

14. (previously presented): A method comprising:

receiving a signal from a first broadcast source at a reference receiver;

generating first fingerprint data from the received signal;

applying the first fingerprint data to a database to select associated information;

receiving second fingerprint data, wherein a user device generates the second fingerprint data;

comparing the second fingerprint data with the associated information; and  
determining a geographical location of the user device.

15. (previously presented): The method according to claim 14, wherein the user device comprises a cell phone, and wherein the geographical location of the user device is determined by at least one of area code, cell site, device identifier, repeater identifier, and alpha-numeric data.

16. (previously presented): A method comprising:  
receiving a signal from a first broadcast source at a reference receiver;  
generating first fingerprint data from the received signal;  
applying the first fingerprint data to a database to select associated information;  
receiving second fingerprint data;  
comparing the second fingerprint data with the associated information;  
receiving a signal from a second broadcast source at the reference receiver;  
generating third fingerprint data from the received signal of the second broadcast source; and  
applying the third fingerprint data to the database to select associated information.

17. (original): The method according to claim 16, wherein the reference receiver comprises a plurality of receivers.

18. (original): The method according to claim 17, wherein at least a first receiver of the plurality of receivers and a second receiver of the plurality of receivers are located in different geographical locations.

19. (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein when a comparison of the second fingerprint data with the associated information does not identify a subset of the associated data, said method further comprises querying a second database to determine additional associated information.

20. (previously presented): A method comprising:

- receiving a signal from a first broadcast source at a reference receiver, the signal comprising an embedded digital watermark;
- decoding the digital watermark to obtain a plural-bit identifier;
- interrogating a database with the identifier to identify a set of fingerprints associated with the received signal;
- receiving second fingerprint data; and
- comparing the second fingerprint data with the set of fingerprints.

21. (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein said comparing comprises selecting a subset from the set of fingerprints based on a vote tally.

22. (previously presented): A method comprising:

cumulating a first set of representations of audio or video with a second set of representations of audio or video, wherein the representations comprise reduced-bit representations of audio or video, and wherein the first set of representations are provided from a first device and the second set of representations are provided from a second device;

determining a plurality of audio and video content relating to the cumulated sets; and

selecting a set of audio or video content from the plurality of audio or video content based on a number of times a selected set of audio and video content corresponds with the cumulated sets.

23. (previously presented): A method comprising:

receiving content, wherein the content comprises an embedded digital watermark;

decoding the digital watermark to obtain a plural-bit identifier;

deriving a reduced-bit representation of the content;

accessing a database with at least the plural-bit identifier; and

using at least the reduced-bit representation of the content to help identify or authenticate the content.